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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

HENNING, MATTHEW T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2131

DATE MAILED: 06/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/921,543

Applicant(s)

VIGUE ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew T. Henning

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 March 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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This action is in response to the communication filed on 3/30/2005.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-11, and 13-25 have been examined and claim 12 has been cancelled.
2. All objections and rejections not set forth below have been withdrawn.

Title

3. The title of the invention is acceptable.

Priority

4. The application has been filed under Title 35 U.S.C §119, claiming priority to provisional applications I. 60/282,333 filed 4/9/2001, and II. 60/298,681 filed 6/18/2001. Applicant's claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) is acknowledged. However, the provisional application I. upon which priority is claimed fails to provide adequate support under 35 U.S.C. 112 for claim 2-3, 9-10, 13-14, and 16-17 of this application. Provisional application I. does not include support for verifying the resource integrity through a the use of a digital signature. There is, however, support for this subject matter in provisional application II.
6. Therefore, the effective filing date for the subject matter defined in the pending claims in this application is 6/18/2001.

Information Disclosure Statement

7. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 12/11/2003 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the examiner is considering the information disclosure statement.

Drawings

8. The drawings filed on 8/2/2001 are acceptable for examination proceedings.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

9. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

10. Claims 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

11. Claims 13-14 depend from cancelled independent claim 12. Therefore, the status of these claims is unclear. Also, if these claims were meant to remain pending, it is unclear what is meant to be claimed by these claims and therefore scope of these claims is unclear. As such, claims 13-14 are rejected for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicants regard as the invention. For the purposes of searching prior art, the examiner will assume that these claims were meant to depend from claim 8.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

12. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

13. Claims 1, 4-7, 15, and 18-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peng (US Patent Number 6,317,754), and further in view of Delaney et al. (US Patent Number 6,374,289) hereinafter referred to as Delaney.

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14. Regarding claim 1, Peng disclosed a method for securely sharing resources over a peer-to-peer network (See Peng Col. 2 Lines 50-67), comprising: broadcasting a request by a requesting peer for a resource over the peer-to-peer network wherein the request contains an identification of the resource and the resource identification contains a resource version identifier (See Peng Fig. 7 and Cols. 5-6 steps 1 and 3); receiving a response from a responding peer on the peer-to-peer network indicating that the responding peer has the requested resource (See Peng Col. 5 Step 2); retrieving the requested resource from the responding peer (See Peng Col. 6 Step 4); and verifying the retrieved resource by ensuring the retrieved resource contains the version identifier embedded therein (See Peng Col. 6 Step 6a), however, Peng failed to disclose the broadcasted request being broadcasted to a plurality of peers.

Delaney teaches that in a server based system, downloading all data from one server can overwhelm the server (See Delaney Col. 1 Lines 26-35). Delaney further teaches a system in which a broadcast request for data is sent to a plurality of peers and one peer that has the requested data responds to the request (See Delaney Col. 7 Line 10 – Col. 8 Line 20 and Fig. 2B).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Delaney in the synchronization system of Peng by broadcasting the request for each object to a plurality of peers and receiving the requested object from one of the peers. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art would have been motivated to protect the servers from being overwhelmed by download requests.

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15. Regarding claim 4, the combination of Peng and Delaney disclosed installing said resource (See Peng Col. 6 Step 6b, and Col 15 Step 9).
16. Regarding claim 5, the combination of Peng and Delaney disclosed retrieving a catalog containing a listing of resources (See Peng Col. 5 Step 2).
17. Regarding claim 6, the combination of Peng and Delaney disclosed comparing the listing of resources with resources installed at the requesting peer to determine which resources are to be requested over the peer-to- peer network (See Peng Cols. 5-6 Step 3).
18. Regarding claim 7, the combination of Peng and Delaney disclosed requesting each resource to be requested in a separate transaction such that each resource to be requested may be retrieved from a same or different responding peer (See Delaney Col. 7 Lines 13-18).
19. Regarding claim 15, the combination of Peng and Delaney disclosed a computer program product for securely sharing resources over a peer-to- peer network (See Peng Col. 9 Lines 39-42), comprising: computer code that broadcasts a single request to a plurality of peers by a requesting peer for a resource over the peer-to-peer network wherein the request contains an identification of the resource and the resource identification contains a resource version identifier; computer code that receives a response from a responding peer on the peer- to-peer network indicating that the responding peer has the requested resource; computer code that retrieves the requested resource from the responding peer; computer code that verifies the retrieved resource by ensuring the retrieved resource contains the version identifier embedded therein; and a computer readable medium that stores said computer codes (See the rejection of claim 1 above and further it was inherent that the application was comprised in a computer

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readable medium in order for the code to have been executed and for the system to have operated).

20. Regarding claim 18, the combination of Peng and Delaney disclosed computer code that installs said resource (See the rejection of claim 4 above).

21. Regarding claim 19, the combination of Peng and Delaney disclosed computer code that retrieves a catalog containing a listing of resources (See the rejection of claim 5 above).

22. Regarding claim 20, the combination of Peng and Delaney disclosed computer code that compares the listing of resources with resources installed at the requesting peer to determine which resources are to be requested over the peer-to-peer network (See the rejection of claim 6 above).

23. Regarding claim 21, the combination of Peng and Delaney disclosed computer code that requests each resource to be requested in a separate transaction such that each resource to be requested may be retrieved from a same or different responding peer (See the rejection of claim 7 above).

24. Regarding claim 22, the combination of Peng and Delaney disclosed that the responding peer scans a list of local aliased copies to determine if the responding peer has a local version of the requested resource (See Delaney Col. 7 Lines 26-39).

25. Regarding claim 23-24, the combination of Peng and Delaney disclosed that the responding peer waits a predetermined randomly generated period of time before responding that the responding resource has the requested resource (See Delaney Col. 7 Lines 26-39).

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26. Regarding claim 25, the combination of Peng and Delaney disclosed that after receiving the response, the requesting peer broadcasts a message to the plurality of peers that the requested resource has been found (See Delaney Col. 10 Lines 26-35).

27. Claims 2, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Peng and Delaney as applied to claims 1, and 15 above, and further in view of Shostack et al. (US Patent Number 6,298,445) hereinafter referred to as Shostack.

Peng and Delaney disclosed verifying the received updates (See the rejection of claim 1 above), but failed to disclose verifying a digital signature of the update.

Shostack teaches an updating system should verify the integrity of updates by checking a digital signature of the update upon receipt of the update and prior to installing the update (See Shostack Fig. 4A Step 110, Fig. 7 and Col. 10 Line 58 – Col. 11 Line 4).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Shostack in the updating system of Peng and Delaney by verifying a digital signature of each update after receipt and prior to installing the update. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art would have been motivated to protect the recipient from update files that had been maliciously tampered with, as well as to prevent security vulnerabilities in the recipient.

28. Claims 3, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Peng, Delaney, and Shostack as applied to claims 2, and 16 above, and further in view of Verisign (Verisign gets US approval for 128-bit key certificates export).

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Peng, Delaney, and Shostack disclosed verifying a digital signature of an update file (See rejection of claim 2 above), but failed to disclose the digital signature being a 1024-bit Verisign digital signature.

Verisign teaches that a 1024-bit Verisign digital signature provides digital signatures for today's strongest cryptographic technologies (See Verisign Page 2 Lines 22-25).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Verisign in the updating system of Peng, Delaney and Shostack by using a 1024-bit Verisign digital signature for verifying the updates. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art would have been motivated to provide the best security for the updates.

29. Claims 8 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Radatti (US Patent Application Publication 2002/0170052), and further in view of Delaney.

Regarding claim 8, Radatti disclosed a product updating service for automatic and secure updating of a product installed at a node of a network (See Radatti Abstract), comprising: automatically downloading a catalog containing a current listing of resources for the product at a predetermined time (See Radatti Paragraphs 0013, 0036, and 0038-0044, and 0053 and 0092), each resource being identified by a resource version identifier (See Radatti Paragraph 0041); comparing the listing of resources in the catalog with resources installed at the node to determine which resources are to be requested over the network (See Radatti Paragraphs 0068 and 0094); requesting each resource to be requested in a separate transaction over the network (See Radatti Paragraphs 0069 and 0094 and Fig 2), retrieving each resource to be requested in the network and the Internet (See Radatti Paragraph 0069 and Fig. 2); and verifying each retrieved resource

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by ensuring the retrieved resource contains the version identifier embedded therein (See Radatti Paragraph 0093-0094), however, Radatti failed to disclose broadcasting the request for code over a peer-to-peer network and receiving the code from a member of the peer-to-peer network.

Delaney teaches that in a server based system, downloading all data from one server can overwhelm the server (See Delaney Col. 1 Lines 26-35). Delaney further teaches a system in which a broadcast request for data is sent to a plurality of peers and one peer that has the requested data responds to the request (See Delaney Col. 7 Line 10 – Col. 8 Line 20 and Fig. 2B).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Delaney in the product updating system of Radatti by broadcasting the request for code to a plurality of peers and receiving the requested code from one of the peers. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art would have been motivated to protect the servers from being overwhelmed by download requests.

30. Regarding claim 11, the combination of Radatti and Delaney disclosed installing each of the retrieved resources (See Radatti Paragraphs 0069-0070).

31. Claims 9, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Radatti and Delaney as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view of Shostack.

Radatti and Delaney disclosed verifying the received code (See the rejection of claim 8 above), but failed to disclose verifying a digital signature of the code.

Shostack teaches an updating system should verify the integrity of updates by checking a digital signature of the update upon receipt of the update and prior to installing the update (See Shostack Fig. 4A Step 110, Fig. 7 and Col. 10 Line 58 – Col. 11 Line 4).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Shostack in the updating system of Radatti and Delaney by verifying a digital signature of each update after receipt and prior to installing the update. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art would have been motivated to protect the recipient from update files that had been maliciously tampered with, as well as to prevent security vulnerabilities in the recipient.

32. Claims 10, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Radatti, Delaney, and Shostack as applied to claims 9, and 13 above, and further in view of Verisign.

Radatti, Delaney, and Shostack disclosed verifying a digital signature of an update code (See rejection of claim 9 above), but failed to disclose the digital signature being a 1024-bit Verisign digital signature.

Verisign teaches that a 1024-bit Verisign digital signature provides digital signatures for today's strongest cryptographic technologies (See Verisign Page 2 Lines 22-25).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary person skilled in the art at the time of invention to employ the teachings of Verisign in the updating system of Radatti, Delaney, and Shostack by using a 1024-bit Verisign digital signature for verifying the updates. This would have been obvious because the ordinary person skilled in the art would have been motivated to provide the best security for the updates.

Response to Arguments

33. Applicant's arguments filed 3/30/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicants argue primarily that:

- i. Peng did not disclose broadcasting request to a plurality of peers.
- ii. Peng did not disclose updating a "product".
- iii. Peng did not disclose requesting each resource such that each resource could be downloaded from a different peer.

34. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11, and 13-21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

35. Claims 1-25 have been rejected.

36. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. Schleicher et al. (US Patent Application Publication 2002/0138744) disclosed a system for providing secure peer-to-peer file delivery involving digitally signing each version of a file to ensure the integrity of the file.
- b. Reiher et al. ("Peer-to-Peer Reconciliation Based Replication for Mobile Computers") disclosed a system which provides file updates upon request without the utilization of a central server.
- c. Fanning et al. (US Patent Number 6,742,023) disclosed a peer-to-peer file sharing system.

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37. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

38. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew T. Henning whose telephone number is (571) 272-3790. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-4.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Matthew Henning
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6/16/2005



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